IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takashi SHIRAISHI et al.

Mail Stop: PCT

Serial No. NEW

Attorney Docket No. 2004-1744A

Filed December 15, 2004

VARIABLE-NOZZLE MECHANISM, EXHAUST TURBOCHARGER EQUIPPED THEREWITH, AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING EXHAUST TURBOCHARGER WITH THE VARIABLE-NOZZLE MECHANISM [Corresponding to PCT/JP2003/013332 Filed October 17, 2003]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

1a.

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and any additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the Form PTO-1449 is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for:

[X]	each U.S. Patent and U.S. Patent application publication;
Ö	each reference previously cited in the international application PCT/; and/or
	each reference previously cited in prior parent application Serial No.
[X] Thi	is Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the above-entitled application, or

before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits or the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of an RCE,

and thus no certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
 - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
 - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification

after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.

- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,
 - b. [X] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
 - c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
 - d. [] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstract,
 - e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [X] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Takashi SHIRAISHI et al.

Nils E. Pedersen

Registration No. 33,145 Attorney for Applicants

NEP/krg Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 December 15, 2004

Sheet 1 of 1			INFORMA	TION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	-7712 Rei	c'd Panpi	0 15 Da	C Mine	
FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE				ATTY DOCKET NO. 2004-1744A	10/517831				
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)				APPLICANT Takashi SHIRAISHI et al.					
(Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: December 15, 2004				FILING DATE December 15, 2004		GROUP			
			U.	S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE		
	AA	2,428,830	10/1947	Birmann					
	AB	2002/0098081	1/2002	Ertl et al.					
	AC	4,679,984	7/1987	Swihart et al.					
	AD	4,770,603	6 /1983	Engels et al.	. <u> </u>				
	AE	5,146,752	6 /19 8 7	Bruestle					
	AF	4,804,316	2/1989	·			·		
	AG	2003/077167	4/2003						
	АН	2001/013339	8/2001						
	Al								
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	SUBCLASS TRANSLATION YES NO		
	AJ	0226444A2	6/1987	EP					
	AK	1236867A2	9/2002	EP			<u>-</u>		
	AL	1120547A2	8/2001	EP					
	АМ	1394363A1	3/2004	EP					
	AN								
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	AO								
	АР								
	AQ		120						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED					